MEDI-CAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAM UPDATE

August 18, 2004

Welcome to our new Division Chief Eileen Kelly



Medi-Cal Program has a new name - the Medi-Cal Program Division and a new Division Chief, Eileen Kelly. Ms. Kelly brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this Division. We are happy to welcome her to our Division.

Important Reminder about MEDS



Staff is again reminded that a review of MEDS records during the eligibility process is a requirement for Medi-Cal. Below is a brief list of critical points when a MEDS record must be reviewed.

A MEDS record must be reviewed at:

<u>Intake-</u> To prevent reconciliation problems between MEDS and LEADER, review the person's SSN, birthdate, and CIN for accuracy.

Approval-To ensure that Medi-Cal eligibility has updated to MEDS and that the information matches LEADER.

<u>Benefit Authorization</u> - To ensure that benefits were correctly issued for ongoing and all retro months.

<u>Termination-</u> To ensure that Medi-Cal eligibility has updated to MEDS and that the information matches LEADER.

NOTE: When a case is terminated in LEADER, check that **EVERY** individual is also terminated in the MEDS system.

Re.: Admin. Memo. 00-49, dated 10/30/00 Admin. Memo. 01-21, dated 08/28/01

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New MEDS Alerts for Deemed Eligible Infants

On June 1, 2004, CDHS began determining deemed eligibility for infants enrolled into Medi-Cal through the CHDP Gateway. As a result, newborns who meet the deemed eligibility criteria begin receiving full scope benefits continuously from the birth



month, with no termination date. Although deemed eligibility ends at age one, the newborn must be evaluated prior to the first birthday for other program eligibility. CDHS has installed new MEDS alerts to notify the counties about newborns enrolled through the Gateway. These alerts are:

- Daily Worker Alert. Two alerts generated at enrollment will notify the county that a deemed eligible newborn has been added. The daily alert will also notify the county if a different address was reported on the CHDP Gateway application.
- Renewal Alert. This alert will be generated when the infant is over 11 months old and requires redetermination of eligibility. A change to the appropriate aid code is required for the infant.

A MEDS clearance should be completed when adding a newborn to an existing case or prior to authorizing the newborn's benefits on a new case. If the child is on MEDS in an 8V or 8U aid code, deemed eligibility through the CHDP Gateway has been established. The 8V and 8U aid codes will remain on MEDS until benefits for the newborn are approved in the appropriate program aid code. Following authorization of aid for the newborn, staff should confirm that MEDS is updated with the correct aid code. Note: The 8V aid code can be viewed in the Primary (QM) Screen on MEDS. The 8U aid code may be viewed in the Special Programs (Q1) Screen on MEDS.

Re: CDHS MEDS Network Change Cycle Notice 6-23-04.



Express Enrollment Pilot Continues

The Express Enrollment Pilot, a referral process which allows staff to enroll medically uninsured children into Medi-Cal using the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) application has been extended to include schools in the San Fernando Valley. The Medi-Cal Mail-In District will continue to receive Medi-Cal referrals from LAUSD for children who are enrolled in the free school lunch program. EWs are reminded that the NSLP application (below), in conjunction with the MC 368, shall be viewed and accepted as a valid Medi-Cal application.

MSR Automated Tracking System Goes Live!

As of August 1, 2004, the MSR Automated Tracking System is operational in all districts. The system, which was designed to track and generate reports on the MSR process, will be used by trained clerical staff. The newly



implemented system should enable EWs to better manage the high volume of MSRs received on a monthly basis.

Re.: Administrative Memorandum 04-13, dated 7-27-04

PRUCOL

Persons Residing Under Color Of Law (PRUCOL) status is available to ALL Medi-Cal beneficiaries who wish to claim it. It is NOT just for persons in long-term care or who are on renal dialysis. (MPIH 50301.2)



Informing Notices For Applicants/ Beneficiaries

It is important that districts ensure that every applicant for Medi-Cal be provided with the following forms:

MC 219 - Rights and Responsibilities

MC 007 - Medi-Cal General Property Limitations

DHS 7077 - Notice Regarding Standards for Medi-Cal Eligibility

DHS 7077A - Notice Regarding Transfer of Home for Both a Married and an Unmarried Applicant/Beneficiary

Eligibility staff must also make certain that property spenddown regulations are explained to every applicant at the **beginning** of the application process.



Second Level Review-

Effective immediately, the Second Level Review Reports are to be sent to the attention of Althea Shirley in the Management Information & Evaluation (MIE) Section. MIE will be responsible for reviewing and processing the PA 1325-2s sent by the district offices.